

1           30. (Twice Amended) A lead-acid cell for a battery comprising a container,  
2 at least one positive plate and at least one positive negative plate disposed within the  
3 container, a separator disposed within the container and separating the at least one  
4 positive plate and the at least one negative plate, the positive plate comprising a grid  
5 supporting structure having a layer of active material coupled thereto, the grid  
6 supporting structure comprising:

7           a lead-based alloy comprising lead;

8           tin in the range of about 0.8% to about 1.1%;

9           calcium in an amount such that the ratio of tin to calcium is greater than  
10 about 12:1;

11          silver in the range of greater than 0 to about 0.02%;

12          wherein the percentages are based upon the total weight of the  
13 lead-based alloy.

1           44. (Twice Amended) A grid supporting structure for use in a lead-acid  
2 battery having at least one positive plate and at least one negative plate disposed  
3 within a container, a separator disposed within the container and separating the at  
4 least one positive plate and the at least one negative plate, the grid supporting  
5 structure having a layer of active material pasted thereto, the grid supporting structure  
6 comprising:

7           a lead-based alloy consisting essentially of lead;

8           tin in the range of about 0.8% to about 1.1%;

9           calcium in an amount such that the ratio of tin to calcium is greater than  
10 about 12:1;

11          silver in the range of greater than 0 to about 0.02%;

12          wherein the percentages are based upon the total weight of the  
13 lead-based alloy.

D3  
1 55. (Once Amended) The grid supporting structure as defined in claim 44,  
2 contained in a maintenance free battery.

1 57. (Once Amended) A plate for use in a battery comprising a lead-based  
2 alloy consisting essentially of:  
3 tin in an amount of about 0.8% to about 1.1%;  
4 calcium in an amount such that the ratio of tin to calcium is greater than  
5 about 12:1;  
6 silver in an amount of greater than 0 to about 0.015%;  
7 wherein the percentages are based on the total weight of the lead based  
8 alloy.

1 62. (Once Amended) The plate of Claim 57 wherein the silver is in an amount  
2 of about 0 to 0.03%.

1 63. (Once Amended) The plate of Claim 58 wherein the calcium is in an  
2 amount of about 0.03 to 0.055.

1 70. (Once Amended) The plate of Claim 59 further comprising a container  
2 for an automotive battery wherein the active material is a paste.

1 71. (Once Amended) The plate lead-acid cell of Claim 30 wherein the silver  
2 is in an amount of about 0.005 to 0.015%.